

## Message Text

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ACTION AID-59

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R 251350Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0989

INFO AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJ: MEETING WITH SEKOU TOURE ON USAID AGRICULTURE PROJECT

REF: CONAKRY 1182 (NOTAL)

SUMMARY:MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR AND AID DESIGN TEAM LEADER JULY 24  
SEKOU TOURE URGED USG IN EOMITONAL TERMS TO PROVIDE VASTLY EXPANDED  
PROGRAM OF CONSTRUCTION AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IN AGRICULTURAL  
TRAINING. IT WAS NEVERTHELESS CLEAR THAT GOG WOULD WELCOME PLANNED  
PROJECT DESPITE PRESIDENT'S DISAPPOINTMENT IN ITS SCOPE END SUMMARY.

1. PRESIDENT SEKOU TOURE RECEIVED AMBASSADOR, AID DESIGN TEAM LEADER  
MURRAY MOULD AND ECON OFFICER DAVID DLOUHY FOR HOUR MEETING 1930  
JULY 24. ALSO PRESENT WERE MINISTER INTERIOR (AND PRESIDENT STATE  
COMMITTEE FOR THE AMERICAS) MOUSSA DIAKITE), MINISTER DOMAINE OF  
EXCHANGE ALPHA OUMAR BARRY, AND MINISTER LIVESTOCK AND FISERY  
KEKOURA CAMARA.

2. ASIDE FROM DELIVERING PRESIDENT FORD'S LETTER AND AMBASSADOR'S  
EXPRESSION OF US DISPLEASURE WITH GOG REP CONDUCT AT WORLD  
FOOD COUNCIL (SEPTTEL) CONVERSATION WAS CONCENTRATED UPON PROPOSED  
US AID AG PRODUCTION CAPABILITY AND TRAINING PROJECT AND UPON  
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PRESIDENT'S PROFOUND CONCERN FOR DEVELOPMENT GUINEAN AGRICULTURAL

POTENTIAL.

3. SEKOU TOURE MADE STRONG EMOTIONAL PLEA FOR GREATLY EXPANDED US ASSISTANCE IN AGRICULTURAL TRAINING. HE EXPLAINED HIS NEW POLICY OF INSISTENCE UPON PRACTICAL, VOCATIONAL ON-THE-FARM EDUCATION RATHER THAN THEORETICAL UNIVERSITY PAPER DEGREES WHICH DID NOT EQUIP GRADUATES

FOR THE REQUIRED OF THEM. HE WAS DISAPPOINTED BY MAGNITUDE OF US PROJECT AND WANTED US TO BUILD AND STAFF ENTIRELY NEW AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL FOR UP TO 1,000 STUDENTS. PROPOSED PROJECT DID NOT BEGIN TO MEET GUINEA'S GROWING NEED AND DID NOT SEEM WORTHY OF CAPACITY FOR ASSISTANCE OF GREAT NATION LIKE US.

4. TOURE LAUDED WORLD-RENOWNED US LEADERSHIP IN AGRICULTURE AND SAID HE WAS PREPARED TO ACCEPT "US MONOPOLY" IN THIS FIELD IN GUINEA AND WOULD WELCOME "100" US EXPERTS. HE PLAYED LIGHTLY ON COLD WAR THEMES AND REFERRED TO LARGE OFFERS OF HELP HE HAD RECEIVED FROM CUBANS AND SOVIET BLOC.

5. AMBASSADOR AND TEAM LEADER DESCRIBED INTEGRATION OF PROPOSED PROJECT WITH NASCENT GOG AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION AND RESEARCH SYSTEM AT FOULAYA AND FAROUAH, AND ENDEAVORED EXPLAIN THAT TRAINING BENEFIT WOULD GREATLY EXCEED IMAGE OF SMALL 25-STUDENT CLASSROOM AT EXPERIMENTAL FARM UPON WHICH TOURE HAD FOCUSED. AMBASSADOR SAID THAT WE ACKNOWLEDGE OUR PROJECT WAS MODEST IN RELATION GUINEA'S NEEDS. HOWEVER, AID HAD HAD LONG AND DIFFICULT EXPERIENCE IN GUINEA. AT PRESIDENT TOURE'S REQUEST WE WERE PREPARED TO RETURN TO GUINEA ON RESTRICTED TRIAL BASIS. IF COOPERATION AND WELCOME WERE POSITIVE, AMBASSADOR WAS CONFIDENT US WOULD CONSIDER ADDITIONAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE EFFORT IN LATER YEARS. DURING ENSUING CONVERSATION, EC OFFICER DLOUHY CITED DISAPPOINTING EXAMPLES OF SPECIFIC US AND SOV BLOC AID PROJECTS, OBSERVING THAT US NOW PROPOSED TO TRY LESS AMBITIOUS PROJECT PERHAPS WITH GREATER PROSPECT OF EFFECTIVENESS.

6. SEKOU TOURE SAID AID AND PEACE CORPS HAD DONE GOOD WORK IN GUINEA IN SIXTIES BUT HAD BECOME VICTIMS OF POLITICAL DIFFICULTIES. HE HINTED THAT CERTAIN PEACE CORPS ELEMENTS MAY HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN POLITICS, BUT HE LATER SEEMED TO WITHDRAW THAT ALLEGATION.

7. AT CONCLUSION OF MEETING AMBASSADOR UNDERTOOK TO REVIEW TOURE'S LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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REQUEST FOR MASSIVE AID BUT MADE CLEAR THERE WAS MINIMAL PROSPECT ENLARGEMENT OF PROJECT IN FORESEEABLE FUTURE.

8. COMMENT: THIS WAS BUSINESSLIKE SESSION, WITH NO IDEOLOGICAL LECTURES BY TOURE ASIDE FROM DESCRIPTION OF HIS APPROACH TOWARD SOCIALIZED AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN GUINEA. HE WAS OPENLY BEGGING FOR MORE AMERICAN AID, BUT WILL CERTAINLY SETTLE FOR WHAT HE CAN GET, I.E., OUR PROPOSAL. IN SEPARATE MEETING WITH MOUSSA

DIAKITE WE OBTAINED SOME SLIGHT SATISFACTION ON EASING OF BUREAUCRATIC

AND SECURITY RESTRICTIONS ON AID PROJECT PERSONNEL, BUT THESE WILL RE  
MAIN

VERY DIFFICULT. SEE NO POLITICAL OR PRACTICAL DEVELOPMENTAL ADVANTAGE  
IN OUR CONSIDERING EXPANSION OF PROGRAM BEYOND SLIGHT AUGMENTATION  
DESIGN TEAM ALREADY HAD IN MIND AND WILL DISCUSS ON RETURN TO  
WASHINGTON. WILLINGNESS OF SEKOU TOURE TO SWALLOW HIS  
PRIDE IN THIS APPEAL FOR MORE AMERICAN AID IS MEASURE OF GREAT  
ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES TO WHICH HIS GOVERNMENTAL PHILOSOPHY HAS  
REDUCED HIS COUNTRY.

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